



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1st BATTALION, 26th INFANTRY REGIMENT
2nd BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT)
FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY 42223-5913




Welcome and congratulations on your assignment to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment "Blue Spaders". The Blue Spaders are the newest yet oldest Infantry Battalion in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team "Strike", and the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Our battalion re-activated at Fort Campbell on 14 April 2015 after relocating from Fort Knox, KY. The Blue Spaders have a long and proud history dating back to the activation of the 26th Infantry Regiment in 1901.

The first of our many mottos include "Courage", which came from WWI where the 26th was among the first American units to land in France. At war's end the regiment had earned more campaign streamers than any other regiment during World War I. "Relentless Pursuit" hails from WWII where the 26th Infantry led America's first-ever amphibious assault in North Africa, fought at the Kasserine Pass, assaulted Sicily at the amphibious battle of Gela, invaded Normandy, conquered the first German city of the war at Aachen, vaulted the Rhine and attacked all the way to Czechoslovakia. By war's end the Regiment had conducted three amphibious assaults, earned seven battle streamers, a Presidential Unit Citation, and five foreign awards. "Resourceful Daring" came from Vietnam where the battalion served in combat for five straight years from autumn 1965 through the summer of 1970. They earned eleven battle streamers, a Valorous Unit Award and two foreign awards. Since 2004 the Blue Spaders have deployed five times in support of the Global War on Terror, twice to Iraq and three times to Afghanistan.

We are the 2nd Brigade proponent for Air Assault and we live the Air Assault Big 5 every day. As an Air Assault Soldier you will need to be physically fit and mentally tough. Be prepared to go to Air Assault School immediately upon arrival and validation.

As you join our team you will be contacted by your sponsor and chain of command. There are several support agencies standing ready to assist you and your family as needed. Your time in the battalion will provide you with numerous opportunities to experience and enjoy all that Fort Campbell and the surrounding community has to offer.

We proudly live up to the traditions and standards established by Blue Spaders past and present as we say "Once a Blue Spader, always a Blue Spader!"
Again welcome!


RYAN B. WYLIE
LTC, IN
COMMANDING